

# **The Maryland Green Registry:**

The value and benefits of  
voluntary environmental efforts



**Calvert County Environmental Commission**  
**October 26, 2020**



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## Let's Talk About...

- why voluntary environmental actions matter,
- the benefits of being a sustainable business,
- how to get started and where to get help, and
- how to get recognized.



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# Why voluntary environmental actions matter

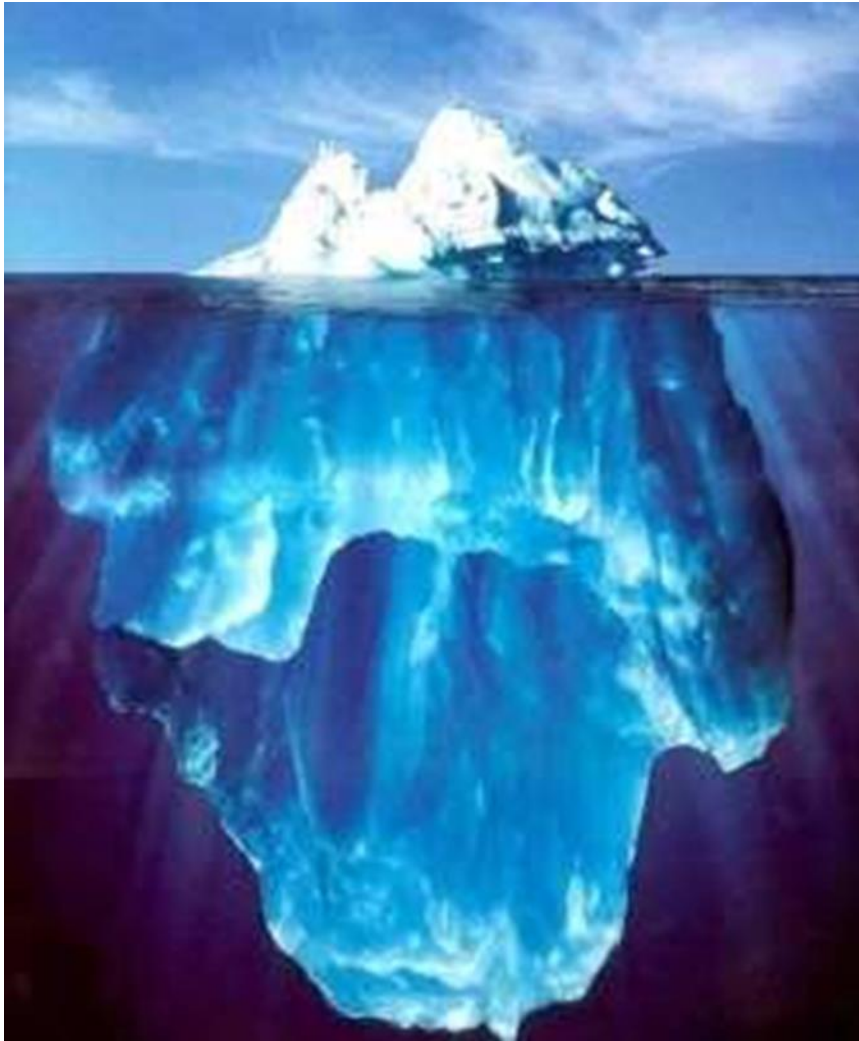


- **Maryland Environment Article, Title 9**
- **COMAR 26**
- **CERCLA**
- **Clean Air Act**
- **Clean Water Act**
- **Resource Conservation and Recovery Act**
- **Safe Drinking Water Act**
- **Toxics Substances Control Act**
- **154,000 regulated facilities**
- **68,000 permits**
- **55,000 site inspections**
- **2,655 enforcement actions**
- **~ 95% compliance**



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# Why voluntary environmental actions matter



Regulated Impacts

Unregulated Impacts



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# The benefits of being a sustainable business

Sustainable businesses are

- more efficient with resources
- more competitive by being both proactive and adaptable
- Better able to mitigate environmental and workforce safety risks
- better able to build market share through enhanced image
- better able to recruit and retain employees



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# The benefits of being a sustainable business

## Sustainability Trends for 2020

- 1) Bold new climate commitments – zero net carbon
- 2) Use of ESG ratings by global investors
- 3) Corporations buying renewable energy
- 4) Attention on water supply
- 5) Big tech impacts on sustainability and economies
- 6) Focus on supply chain (Scope 3 emissions)
- 7) Circular economy
- 8) Green microgrids
- 9) Climate risks enter into insurance, loans, policies
- 10) More brands/countries cut plastics use
- 11) Food waste
- 12) Decarbonization of grid and electrification of transportation and buildings



# How to get started ...

- ☐ Create a Green Team.
- ☐ Create an environmental policy statement.
- ☐ Ensure compliance with all environmental laws and regulations.
- ☐ Brainstorm a list of all the environmental impacts of your organization.
- ☐ Prioritize these impacts based on their significance.
- ☐ Choose one or more to address. Define the project, goals, timelines, and responsibilities.
- ☐ Implement the changes.
- ☐ Measure and share results.
- ☐ Repeat! Maintain your momentum by setting new annual goals.



## .....and where to get help

- EmPower Maryland Programs through your local utility
- Maryland Energy Administration
- DOE Industrial Assessment Program
- ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager
- Trade association standards
- Certification programs and checklists
- Maryland Green Registry



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# How to get recognized



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**Free** state program launched in 2009 to promote and recognize sustainable practices at organizations across the state. It now has more than 570 members, collectively saving over \$100 million through environmental best practices.

## Members located in Calvert County

Calvert County Government  
Calvert Memorial Hospital  
American Property Consultants, Inc.  
Glover's Septic Systems, Inc.  
Tobacco Barn Distillery



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# Membership Benefits

- Increased visibility of your business through an online member profile.
- Improved search engine optimization due to .gov URL
- Use of the Maryland Green Registry logo and window decal
- Early notice on free technical assistance programs, news, events, and webinars
- Access to Members Only LinkedIn Group
- Annual Contests
- Member spotlights on social media
- Annual Maryland Green Registry Leadership Awards and Networking Event



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# How to Join

Download the application at [www.green.maryland.gov](http://www.green.maryland.gov) and share at least:

5

**Environmental Best Practices**

1

**Measurable Result**

3

**Update** your member profile anytime with new practices and results, but no less frequently than every **three** years.



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# Application Form

## MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

- ☐ Environmental Policy Statement
- ☐ Environmental Team
- ☐ Annual Environmental Goals
- ☐ Environmentally Preferable Products and Services
- ☐ Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
- ☐ Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects
- ☐ Independently-Audited Environmental Management System

## WASTE

- ☐ Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Composting
- ☐ Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction

## ENERGY

- ☐ Energy Efficiency
- ☐ Renewable Energy

## TRANSPORTATION

- ☐ Employee Commute
- ☐ Efficient Business Travel
- ☐ Fleet Vehicles

## WATER

- ☐ Water Conservation
- ☐ Stormwater Management and Site Design

## GREEN BUILDING

- ☐ Rating System (LEED, Green Globes or IgCC)

## OTHER

- ☐ Environmental certification programs, awards and other activities



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# Online Member Profile



## Calvert County Government



175 Main Street  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
410-535-1600 x 2340  
<http://www.co.cal.md.us>  
County Government  
Member since March 2011

### Management and Leadership



#### Environmental Policy Statement

*The Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County and all of County government are committed to preservation, sustainability, energy resource management and conservation both for economic savings and environmental benefit. The Calvert County Comprehensive Plan, Calvert 2040 (adopted in 2019), which is the county's official policy document states the following goals and objectives:*

- Preserve the rural character of the county, its prime farmland, contiguous forests, cultural resources, and environmentally sensitive areas
- Continue a comprehensive approach to environmental planning with special emphasis on watershed planning
- Preserve, protect, and conserve land-based natural resources
- Install or enhance stormwater management systems to reduce pollution in the county streams, Patuxent River, and Chesapeake Bay
- Maintain well-managed and effective solid waste and recyclable materials management systems in Calvert County
- Consider new renewable energy opportunities
- Take steps to decrease water consumption
- Minimize pollution from wastewater treatment plants and septic systems.



#### Environmental Team

*Calvert County's Go Green initiative is a local effort to promote the responsible use of energy and resources in order to create a healthier*



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# Leadership Awards



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## 2018 Leadership Award Winner Pearlstone Center



### About Pearlstone Center

Located on a beautiful 180-acre campus in Reisterstown, Maryland, Pearlstone welcomes over 20,000 annual guests through retreats, conferences, field trips, environmental education programs and more. Pearlstone is an agency of The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, and works to improve environmental health and wellness across the Jewish community and beyond.

### Achievements

**Energy Efficiency:** Pearlstone decreased on-site Energy Use Intensity (EUI) in 2017 from a 2015 baseline by 28%. This corresponded with a 30% decrease in energy costs and a 27% decrease in total greenhouse gas emissions. These results were achieved through a building automation system, upgrades to LED lighting, and the installation of a Basic Power Unit, which optimizes electrical voltage for electrical efficiency. Pearlstone also installed a solar thermal hot water heater, reducing propane usage by about 30%.

**Sustainable Food Service:** In 2017, Pearlstone donated 20% of their farm harvest, amounting to 10,000 pounds of organic produce, to local food banks and food rescues. In its commercial kitchen and dining room, Pearlstone reduces food waste through portion control and by composting food waste. In one year, 31,000 pounds of food scraps were composted on site to create 60,000 pounds of compost when combined with other organic materials.

**Sustainable Agriculture:** Pearlstone's certified organic produce provides delicious farm to table dining. Drip irrigation is used to conserve water and community members can enjoy handpicking certified organic strawberries as well. And in following the biblical tradition, Pearlstone lets the land rest during *shmita*, the sabbatical year, and teaches thousands of people each year about the spiritual, cultural, and ethical dimensions of sustainability.



The Maryland Green Registry Leadership Awards recognize organizations that have shown a strong commitment to the implementation of sustainable practices, the demonstration of measurable results, and the continual improvement of environmental performance.

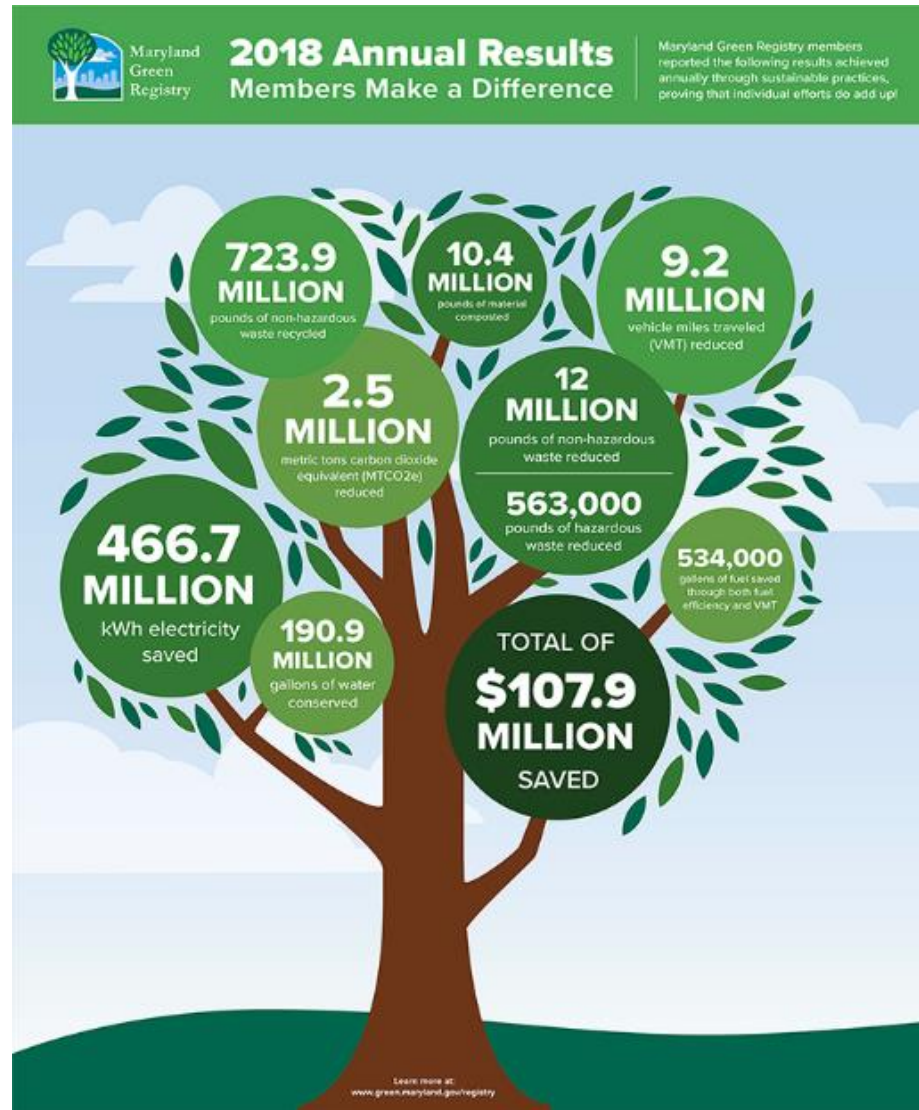
[www.green.maryland.gov](http://www.green.maryland.gov)



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# Annual Results



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# Partnerships

- Sustainable Maryland Certified 
- Green Bowie Business 
- Regional Manufacturing Institute 
- Plastics Free QAC 
- Maryland Office of Tourism Development 
- Event Partners: USGBC Maryland, Annapolis Green, Bethesda Green, One Montgomery Green
- Suggestions?



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# Contact Information

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